

To the Federal Communications Commission:

As a subscriber to XM Radio, I believe that XM's traffic and weather service is valuable, has no equivalent in commercial radio and should be maintained. (If Infinity, for example, was willing to dedicate one of its stations in each market to 24-hour continuous traffic and weather, I could be convinced that XM's service is superfluous, but that's clearly not going to happen.)

My understanding is that the National Association of Broadcasters asked XM to agree not to use its network of local repeaters to carry localized content, and XM has lived up to that agreement. The traffic and weather service is available to all subscribers, regardless of where they live.

If broadcasters want to compete, they can offer more frequent traffic and weather updates on their stations. In addition, RDS and IBOC digital radio offer broadcasters a way to offer comparable services without affecting their current programming. For these reasons, XM and Sirius should have the ability to continue offering innovative services that add value for listeners. Broadcasters already have, or shortly will have, the tools they need to compete fairly, if they're willing to make the necessary investment.

Sincerely,
Leonard J. Feldman